Vote No. 323

October 13, 1999, 3:30 p.m. Page S-12504 Temp. Record

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS/Conference, Passage

SUBJECT:

Conference report to accompany the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000 . . . H.R. 1906. Agreeing to the report.

ACTION: CONFERENCE REPORT AGREED TO, 74-26

SYNOPSIS: The conference report to accompany H.R. 1906, the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000, will provide \$69.017 billion in new budget authority for fiscal year 2000, including \$8.699 billion in emergency agricultural assistance. Loan authorizations will total approximately \$10.7 billion. Details are provided below.

- Agriculture Programs, \$20.066 billion, including: \$14.368 billion for payments to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses; and \$1.094 billion for the Farm Service Agency (with a loan level of \$3.083 billion).
 - Conservation Programs, \$813.3 million.
- Rural Development Programs, \$2.213 billion, including: \$718.8 million for the Rural Community Advancement Program; and \$1.332 billion for the Rural Housing Service (with a loan level of \$4.589 billion).
- Domestic food assistance programs, \$35.044 billion, including: \$21.071 billion for the Food Stamp Program; \$4.032 billion for the Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC); and \$9.554 billion for Child Nutrition programs.
 - Foreign food assistance and related programs, \$1.064 billion.
 - Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, \$1.115 billion.
- Spending limits will be placed on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, new acreage enrollments in the Wetlands Reserve Program, and the Fund for Rural America.
- Contingent emergency appropriations for fiscal year 2000, \$8.699 billion (for related debate, see vote Nos. 249-250, 253, and 255-257), including: \$1.2 billion for assistance to producers who incurred 1999 crop losses due to natural disasters; \$5.544 billion for Agricultural Market Transition Act (AMTA) payments; \$412 million for specialty crop (peanuts, sugar, tobacco) assistance;

(See other side)

YEAS (74)				NAYS (26)		NOT VOTING (0)	
		Den	emocrats Republic		Democrats	Republicans	Democrats (0)
		(32 or 71%)		(13 or 24%)	(13 or 29%)	(0)	
Abraham Allard Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brownback Bunning Burns Campbell Cochran Coverdell Craig Crapo DeWine Domenici Enzi Fitzgerald Frist Gorton Gramm Grams	Grassley Hagel Hatch Helms Hutchinson Hutchison Inhofe Lott Lugar Mack McConnell Murkowski Roberts Sessions Shelby Smith, Gordon Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Akaka Baucus Bayh Bingaman Boxer Breaux Bryan Byrd Cleland Conrad Daschle Dorgan Durbin Edwards Feinstein Harkin	Hollings Inouye Johnson Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Landrieu Levin Lincoln Murray Reid Robb Rockefeller Wellstone Wyden	Chafee Collins Gregg Jeffords Kyl McCain Nickles Roth Santorum Smith, Bob (I) Snowe Specter Voinovich	Biden Dodd Feingold Graham Lautenberg Leahy Lieberman Mikulski Moynihan Reed Sarbanes Schumer Torricelli		ION OF ABSENCE usiness ly Absent aced Yea aced Nay Yea

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\$470 million for assistance to AMTA-eligible oilseed producers; \$322 million for livestock and dairy assistance, of which a minimum of \$125 million will be made available as direct income assistance for dairy producers (the dairy price support program will only be extended for one additional year, until January 1, 2001, providing a rescission of \$102 million); \$201 million for upland cotton competitiveness; \$400 million for providing agricultural producers a premium discount toward the purchase of crop insurance for the 2000 crop year; \$250 million for the costs associated with the crop insurance discounts; and \$2 million for water and waste loan forgiveness.

- Minor modifications will be made to the requirements for granting temporary agricultural (H-2A) worker visas in order to make it easier to receive such visas.
 - A new mandatory livestock price reporting program will be established.

For debate, see vote No. 322.